Accelerate your journey to the information center with services that help you adopt cloud at your own pace.

Cloud Answers Top Challenges in Data Growth and IT Management

Industry analysts predict that keeping up with data growth will be the top challenge for both midmarket and enterprise IT managers in the next few years. Content depots, large repositories of digital content amassed and organized for information sharing or distribution, are rapidly consuming volumes of disk storage. Research from IDC (see Figure 1) indicates content depots and unstructured data are driving data growth. IDC anticipates a compound annual growth rate of more than 100% for data housed in these repositories over the next 12 to 24 months.

In addition to data growth, companies also need to overcome other complexities that affect IT, such as:

- Changes in business models
- Data security regulations
- Maintenance of legacy environments
- Mergers and acquisitions

Figure 1. Storage Consumption by Data Type (PB)

Source: IDC 2010
Industry Moves Toward Cloud Service Models

New solutions are necessary to address these challenges. And the changing requirements are driving the industry toward cloud service models. But what can enterprise organizations expect to achieve? First, you can take advantage of the economies of scale in a multitenant deployment, where multiple customers or users share the same physical infrastructure. By doing this, you are able to transfer capital expenditures (CAPEX) into more flexible operating expenditures (OPEX). Ultimately, this results in lower OPEX costs as well. Cloud computing offers greater elasticity, which enables you to grow or shrink capacity requirements on demand and simplify deployment. This results in faster time to market or time to value. By adopting cloud, you have the ability to administer multiple service level agreements (SLA) to address diverse user needs, while gaining greater functionality. For example, some capabilities include indexing and search, geographic dispersion of data, compliance, encryption and versioning without backup.

However, transforming your data center into a consolidated, virtualized and automated infrastructure presents a new set of challenges. Below are the top reasons why these transformational projects fail:

- Lack of fact-based analyses
- Lack of governance
- Poor interlock between IT and business
- Unclear expectations
- Lack of skills and resources
- Ill-defined best practices and processes

Hitachi Data Systems has enhanced its services to address these reasons why transformational projects fail. We’ve considered people, processes and technology to ensure success in developing and implementing your cloud strategies.

Hitachi Data Systems Services Facilitate Your Cloud Journey

Hitachi Data Systems delivers the most integrated set of storage and computing resources to provide elastic, virtualized and highly available cloud environments for all data. Hitachi Data Systems Global Services has expanded its services strategy and portfolio to help you in your journey through infrastructure cloud and content cloud to the information cloud. Figure 2 depicts how HDS services can help you in your cloud journey.

Take the Next Step

To learn more about our vision for the cloud and maintaining your edge in today’s and tomorrow’s competitive marketplace, please contact your Hitachi Data Systems representative or visit us at www.HDS.com/services.